

division number setting means, responsive to a bit stream input, for setting the division number  $N$  so that  $N$  sync blocks form the recording format, wherein  $N$  is an integer;

the bit stream including a predetermined number  $M$  of transport packets as a unit, wherein  $M$  is an integer and wherein the sync blocks are related to the transport packets such that  $N$  is not equal to  $M$ ;

header appending means for appending, to data of the bit stream before the division, a header indicating the transport packet; and

format forming means for forming  $N$  consecutive sync blocks from the data after the division of the bit stream.

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H  
cancel.